

West Virginia State Fire Commission

Annual Report

FY 2015



**West Virginia State Fire Commission/
West Virginia State Fire Marshal's Office
1207 Quarrier Street, 2nd Floor
Charleston, WV 25301**

Phone: (304) 558-2191 Fax: (304) 558-2537

www.firemarshal.wv.gov

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Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety

Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor
Joseph Thornton, Cabinet Secretary
Kenneth E. Tyree, Jr., State Fire Marshal

Phone: (304) 558-2191

Fax: (304) 558-2537

OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

1207 Quarrier St, 2nd Floor
Charleston, WV 25301
www.firemarshal.wv.gov

September 29, 2015

The Honorable Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor of West Virginia
State Capitol Building
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Governor Tomblin,

On behalf of the members of the West Virginia State Fire Commission and in accordance with the West Virginia Code, I am pleased to submit to you the Annual Report for FY 2015.

The support you have shown for the entire Fire Service of West Virginia, the State Fire Commission and the Office of the Fire Marshal is greatly appreciated.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Fire Commission if you have any inquiries in the future.

Sincerely,

Carl E. Sizemore
Chairman

September 29, 2015

The Honorable Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor of West Virginia
State Capitol Building
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Governor Tomblin,

In compliance with the West Virginia Code, Chapter 5, Article 1, Section 20, the Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2015 of the West Virginia State Fire Marshal's Office is hereby submitted for your review.

This report is a representative, but by no means complete, look at the myriad services provided to the citizens of West Virginia by the dedicated personnel of the West Virginia State Fire Marshal's Office.

Since 1909 the State Fire Marshal's Office has consistently increased its level of public service to the State of West Virginia through code inspections and enforcement, licensing and regulatory services, public fire education, fire investigations and many other duties.

This report in part reflects the efforts of West Virginia's fire departments and fire service organizations that represent full time career, volunteer and part-paid combination departments. It should not be forgotten that on a daily basis, these brave men and women are ready to give their lives protecting their communities from fire and other emergency incidents.

Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth E. Tyree Jr.
West Virginia State Fire Marshal

State Fire Commission

Mission Statement

To provide, through leadership, the best possible fire prevention and life safety for our citizens by legislation, education, training, standards, and resource allocation.

COMMISSION REPRESENTATION

3 members.....full-time paid firefighters
1 member.....full-time paid fire chiefs
3 members.....volunteer firefighters
2 members.....volunteer fire chiefs
2 members.....business & industry
1 member.....fire insurance industry
1 member.....registered architects

STANDING COMMITTEES

Training
Fire Marshal Operations
Legislation, Codes & Regulatory
Fire Department Services
Disciplinary

FIRE COMMISSION OFFICERS

CHAIRMAN: Carl E. Sizemore
Represents: Paid Firefighters
Term Expires: 6/30/18

VICE-CHAIRMAN: Grant Gunnoe
Represents: Paid Firefighters
Term Expires: 6/30/19

SECRETARY: Larry Goodwin
Represents: Volunteer Firefighters
Term Expires: 6/30/15

FIRE COMMISSION MEMBERS

Gary Bonnett Represents: <i>Volunteer Fire Chiefs</i> Term Expires: 6/30/16	Dave Camp Represents: <i>Insurance</i> Term Expired: 6/30/19
John Holstein Represents: <i>Volunteer Firefighters</i> Term Expires: 6/30/17	Thomas Keefer Represents: <i>Business & Industry</i> Term Expires: 6/30/16
Robert Miller Represents: <i>Volunteer Fire Chiefs</i> Term Expires: 6/30/18	Doug Mongold Represents: <i>Volunteer Firefighters</i> Term Expires: 6/30/15
Rick Scott Represents: <i>Paid Fire Chiefs</i> Term Expires: 6/30/15	Ted A. Shriver Represents: <i>Registered Architects</i> Term Expires: 6/30/17
Vic Stallard Jr. Represents: <i>Business & Industry</i> Term Expires: 6/30/17	Virgil White Represents: <i>Professional Firefighters</i> Term Expires: 6/30/17

State Fire Marshal's Office

Administration Division

STATE FIRE MARSHAL:	Kenneth E. Tyree Jr.
CHIEF DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL:	Robert S. Sharp
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ASSISTANT III:	Melissa Hapney
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ASSISTANT I:	Leslie Racine

Regulatory and Licensing Division

DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL:	Vacant
SECRETARY:	Tanya Bradshaw
OFFICE ASSISTANTS:	Valerie J. Lacy Shenandoah Gore

Fire Safety Inspection/Plans Review Division

DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL:	Clarence J. Leake
ASSISTANT STATE FIRE MARSHALS:	
Douglas E. Gregory	Allan Casto
Rudy L. Raynes	Mike Trabert
Charles Vannatter	Norm Fetterman
John Oliver	Bobby Light
Terry Rinehart	Robert Tribbie
Bryan Casto	Timothy W. Mouse
George Harms	Jeff Armentrout
Nathan Bushek	Nevin Kilmer
Bradley Scott	Mark Stewart
PLANS REVIEWERS:	Clyde Cummings Chris Martin Nathan Rimmey

SECRETARY:

LaTara Seagraves

OFFICE ASSISTANTS:

Monica J. Ingram
Annie Humphrey

Fire Investigation Division

DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL:

Mark Lambert

ASSISTANT STATE FIRE MARSHALS:

Shawn Alderman
Josh Amos
Mackey Ayersman
Jason Baltic
Patrick Barker
VACANT

Timothy Chastain
Brad Hartley
Ryan McFarland
Scott Rodes
VACANT

SECRETARY:

Cathy Green

Public Education Division

Division Director (Temporary):

Timothy S. Provaznik

OFFICE ASSISTANT:

Heather Bostic

Fire Department Services Division

SUPERVISOR:

Timothy S. Provaznik

OFFICE ASSISTANT:

Alice Carpenter

Regulatory & Licensing Division Annual Report FY 2015



Regulatory & Licensing Division

STAFF

Division Director:

Vacant, DSFM

Secretary:

Tanya Bradshaw

Office Assistants:

Valerie Carpenter
Tracy Weese



DIVISION OBJECTIVE

The Regulatory & Licensing Division aims to provide a better and safer standard of living for the citizens of West Virginia by ensuring only qualified applicants obtain licensure, by validating and referring customer complaints, by checking for compliance with all applicable codes and regulations and by providing citizens with information on State Laws and Regulations.

INTRODUCTION

The Regulatory & Licensing Division enforces and interprets laws, rules and regulations and issues licenses relating to the electrical industry, the explosive industry, the fireworks industry, Building Code Officials, Electrical Inspectors, Home Inspectors, and Fire Protection Workers.

As charged in State Code, the Licensing & Regulatory Division writes and updates in-house testing for 8 different classifications of Electrician exams as well as Indoor and Outdoor Pyrotechnician exams.

2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Fireworks:

Type of Permit	Number Issued	Total Fees Collected
Fireworks Display	347	\$ 17,595.00
Pyrotechnic Operator Licenses	374	\$ 7,720.00
TOTAL		\$25,315.00

Explosives:

Type of Permit	Number Issued	Total Fees Collected
Manufacturing Permit	4	\$ 4,000.00
Black Powder Permit	7	\$ 350.00
Permit to Sell	22	\$ 11,000.00
Explosive Magazines	716	\$ 83.150.00
Individual Licenses	1025	\$ 55,615.00
TOTAL		\$ 154,115.00

Inspectors, Code Officials & Fire Protection Workers:

Type of Permit	Number Issued	Total Fees Collected
Home Inspectors	162	\$ 17,075.00
Electrical Inspector	46	\$ 9,100.00
Building Code Officials	36	\$ 1,800.00
Fire Protection Workers	523	\$ 49,495.00
TOTAL		\$ 77,470.00

Electricians:

<u>Type of License</u>	<u>Number Issued</u>	<u>Total Fees Collected</u>
Issued	15,758	\$ 810,791.00
TOTAL		\$ 810,791.00

Test Fees:

<u>Applicants</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Total Fees Collected</u>
Issued	2292	\$ 37,845.00
TOTAL		\$ 38,715.00

72 Letter of Good Standing Fees Collected \$ 1,805.00

43 Duplicate License Fees Collected \$ 430.00

Total Special Revenue Collected FY 15 *\$ 1,107,771.00*

Fire Safety Inspection/ Plans Review Division Annual Report

*Deputy State Fire Marshal
Clarence J. Leake*



FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION/PLANS REVIEW DIVISION

I. INTRODUCTION

The Fire Safety Inspection/Plans Review Division staff consists of one (1) Field Deputy Fire Marshal, three (3) Field Supervisors, seventeen (17) Assistant Fire Marshals, three (3) Fire Safety Plans Reviewers, one (1) Divisional Secretary and two (2) Office Assistants. The Assistant Fire Marshals are assigned to a designated geographical territory ranging from two (2) to six (6) counties. Three (3) Divisional personnel also assist with the review of plans when necessary in addition to their inspection duties. One Assistant Fire Marshal also serves double duty as he is also assigned a geographical area to investigate fires in addition to his/her inspection duties. Three Assistant Fire Marshals are assigned the additional duty of evaluating of fire departments in addition to their inspection duties. All Assistant Fire Marshals serve as liaison for all Fire Marshal services with the local fire departments and the general public.

The division's duties and responsibilities include:

- Inspection of all types of occupancies except one and two family dwellings.
- Issue citations for fire code violations.
- Assists the Licensing & Regulatory Division in the enforcement of the licensing programs, electrician, fire protection worker, fireworks, etc.
- Enforcement of fireworks regulations; monitoring of display sites, investigation of complaints, seizure of illegal fireworks.
- Enforcement of blasting regulations and inspection of explosives magazines and blasting complaints.
- Enforcement of forest fire burning laws
- Regulation of aboveground flammable liquid storage tanks.
- Conduct fire safety training educational seminars and public fire education.
- Provide assistance to the Fire/Arson & Explosives Division and other law enforcement agencies.
- Assist federal government in the implementation of the Federal Hotel/Motel Fire Safety Act.
- Response to disasters
- Administers licensing tests
- Administers the Certified Fire Inspector Program for NFPA
- Conduct fire department evaluations
- Conduct fire investigations in buildings that are normally inspected by this office.

This fiscal year, five thousand seven hundred and fourteen (5,714) fire safety inspections, consultations, and complaints were conducted by the division. This is a decrease from the previous year and is partly due to retirements and personnel leaving for other employment opportunities. Inspections continue to be prioritized and limited to certain occupancies.

In addition to fire safety inspections, a significant number of man-hours were expended conducting fire safety training and educational programs, complaint investigations, assisting the fire investigation division and department training. Additional educational programs include: in-service training to county school maintenance and educational staffs, presentations to the West Virginia Landlords Association, Department of Health and Human Services social workers and sanitarians, West Virginia Advocate employees day care and Residential Board & Care providers, Building Code officials and the West Virginia Hospital Engineers Association.

Professional development of our divisional staff continues to be a high priority. Our focus on technology will continue to simplify our business processes, making our services more accessible to our customers. Our divisional personnel are constantly striving to improve their skills and knowledge by attending advanced educational programs. This fiscal year a total of one thousand five hundred and eleven (1,511) hours were spent on training.

Two of our most significant projects during this past fiscal year were University Place in Morgantown and Eagle View in the Charleston area. University Place is an eleven story high rise dormitory for WVU student housing. What makes this building unique is the bottom floor being a mercantile occupancy with various stores. The most prominent being the largest Sheetz store in West Virginia. Eagle View is a gated residential community with several buildings housing 191 apartments and is located with a magnificent view of the city and Capitol.

Numerous citations were issued this past fiscal year for various fire code violations, ranging from locked exits, illegal storage of fireworks to improper licensing and illegal/improper explosives/blasting. The majority of citations were written to inmates housed in the various regional jails for tampering with sprinkler heads.

The Plans Review Section dedicates a significant amount of time and research to telephone calls and walk-in consultations regarding code interpretations. These direct contacts assist designers and owners with proper code requirements during the early development of the project under consideration. These contacts are not a formal review of plans; however, this procedure has proven to eliminate costly and time-consuming changes during the design and construction phase of the project. In addition this division assists the public

and business owners in answering general fire code questions thru telephone calls and various types of other correspondence.

This section accomplishes a formal review of the plans when construction documents are submitted. This is an in-depth review of all architectural and mechanical plans for code compliance. Specialized systems such as fire alarms, automatic sprinkler systems, hood suppression and smoke management systems are reviewed at the time of submittal of the construction documents.

This fiscal year one thousand four hundred ninety-four (1,494) plans were reviewed. Of these plans one hundred thirty-six (136) were projects that exceeded one million dollars. In the past five years we have reviewed and provided construction inspections for occupancy for over seven billion dollars of construction. In an effort to become more efficient during the review, construction and final inspection for occupancy stages, on large projects both the reviewer and area fire marshal will conduct both the review process and inspection stages until the building is occupied.

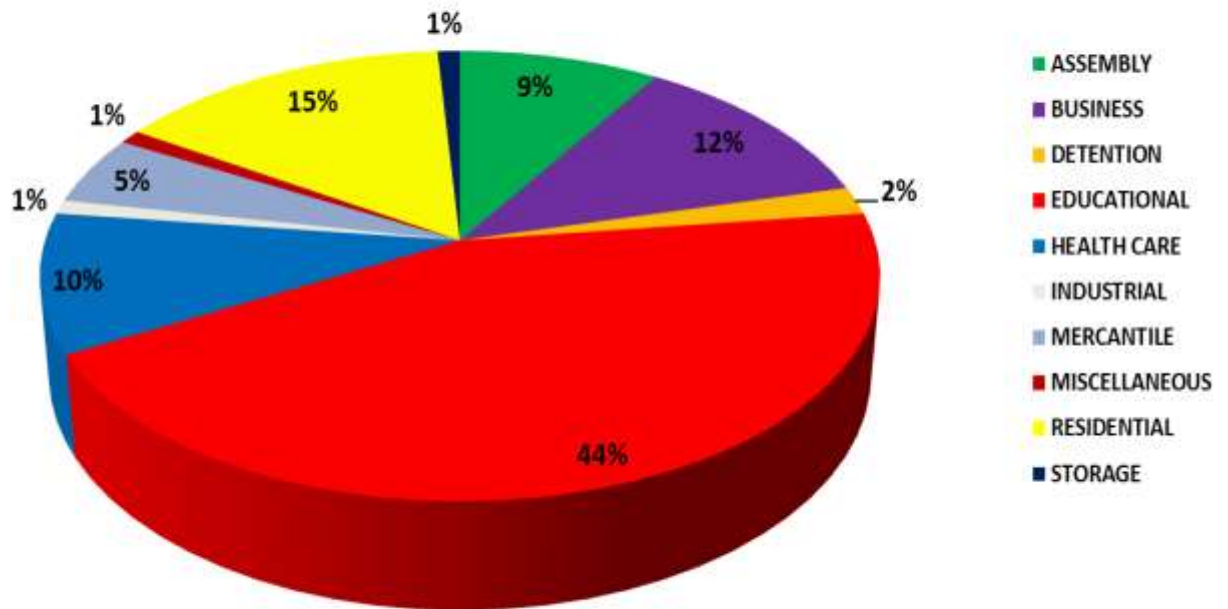


FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION DIVISION

LIFE SAFETY INSPECTIONS BY OCCUPANCY 2014 - 2015

	INITIALS	CONSTRUCTION	SYSTEM	FOLLOW-UPS/ANNUALS	FINALS	COMPLAINTS	CONSULTATIONS	DIVISION TOTALS
ASSEMBLY	20	233	31	65	53	13	65	480
Class A	1	42	4	26	7	1	27	108
Class B	2	28	1	4	3	0	10	48
Class C	17	163	26	35	43	12	28	324
BUSINESS	54	220	53	257	61	5	61	711
DETENTION	0	6	1	108	1	0	15	131
EDUCATIONAL	134	262	44	1882	33	12	127	2494
Day Cares	67	13	5	285	9	0	27	406
Schools	67	217	38	1338	20	11	83	1774
Colleges & Universities	0	32	1	259	4	1	17	314
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HEALTH CARE	10	140	35	321	25	3	36	570
Hospitals	2	90	23	114	14	2	26	271
Nursing Homes	7	35	10	188	7	1	9	257
Ambulatory Care	1	15	2	19	4	0	1	42
INDUSTRIAL	3	33	5	7	8	10	7	73
MERCANTILE	3	150	28	45	36	1	3	266
MISCELLANEOUS	68	7	1	4	1	0	0	81
RESIDENTIAL	23	352	65	248	54	41	54	837
Hotel/Motel	4	74	5	14	4	8	23	132
Apartments	1	170	37	13	36	23	12	292
Dormitory	1	47	16	26	4	1	9	104
Rooming/Lodging	9	38	7	55	7	2	8	126
Dwellings	1	2	0	17	1	7	1	29
Board & Care	7	21	0	123	2	0	1	154
STORAGE	5	23	8	14	11	4	6	71
TOTALS	320	1426	271	2951	283	89	374	5714

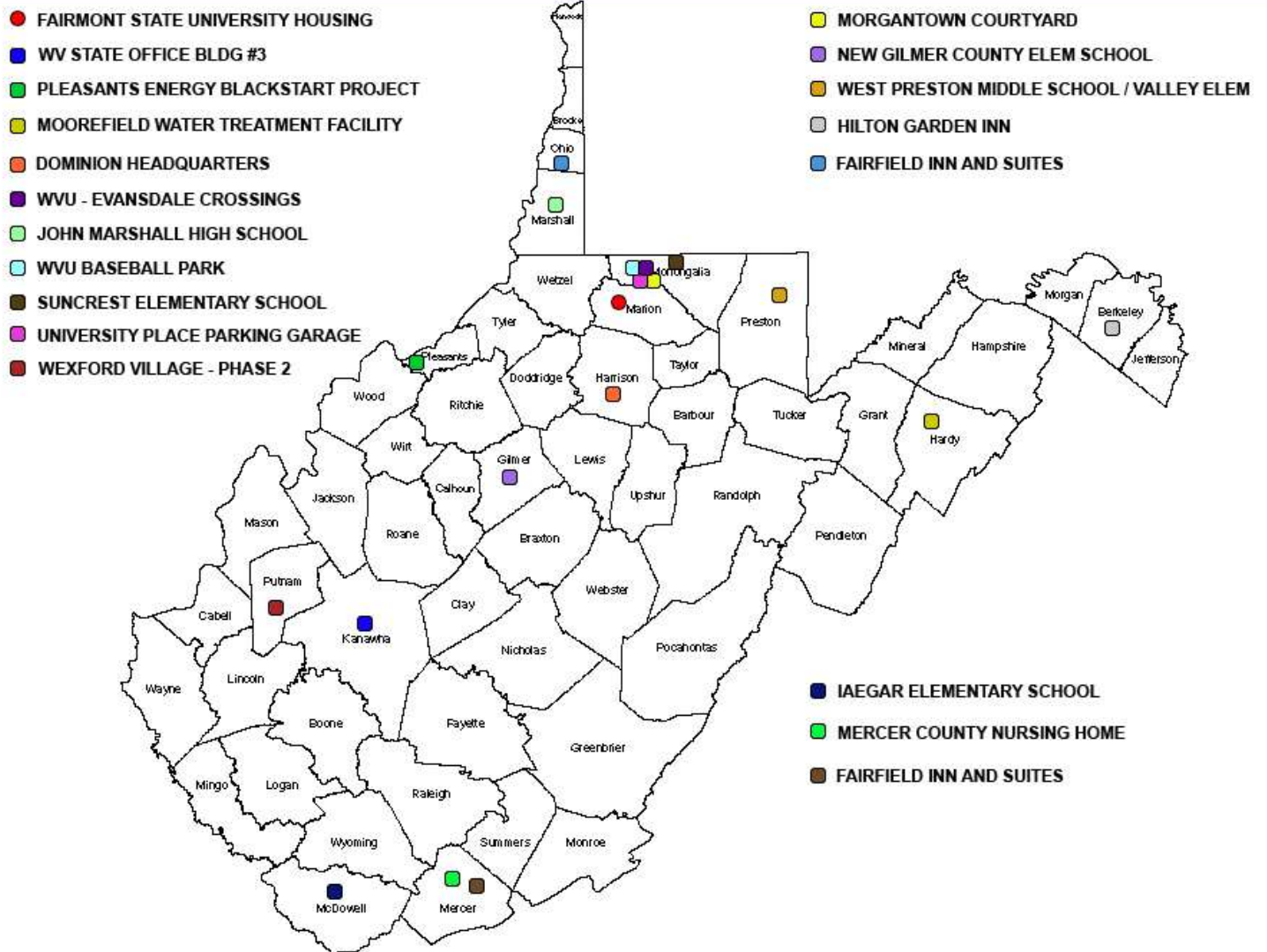
LIFE SAFETY INSPECTIONS BY OCCUPANCY - FY 2014 - 2015



LIFE SAFETY INSPECTIONS BY OCCUPANCY *Five Fiscal Years*

	2010 - 2011	2011 - 2012	2012 - 2013	2013 - 2014	2014 - 2015	FIVE YEAR TOTALS
Assembly	296	366	369	404	480	1915
Business	818	795	808	1019	711	4151
Detention	130	51	38	85	131	435
Educational	2626	1509	1708	2752	2494	11089
Hazardous Materials	1	1	3	3	0	8
Health Care	469	433	461	559	570	2492
Industrial	43	51	79	86	73	332
Mercantile	159	225	253	352	266	1255
Miscellaneous	13	6	116	45	81	261
Residential	586	437	422	892	837	3174
Storage	57	84	41	104	71	357
TOTALS	5198	3958	4298	6301	5714	29850

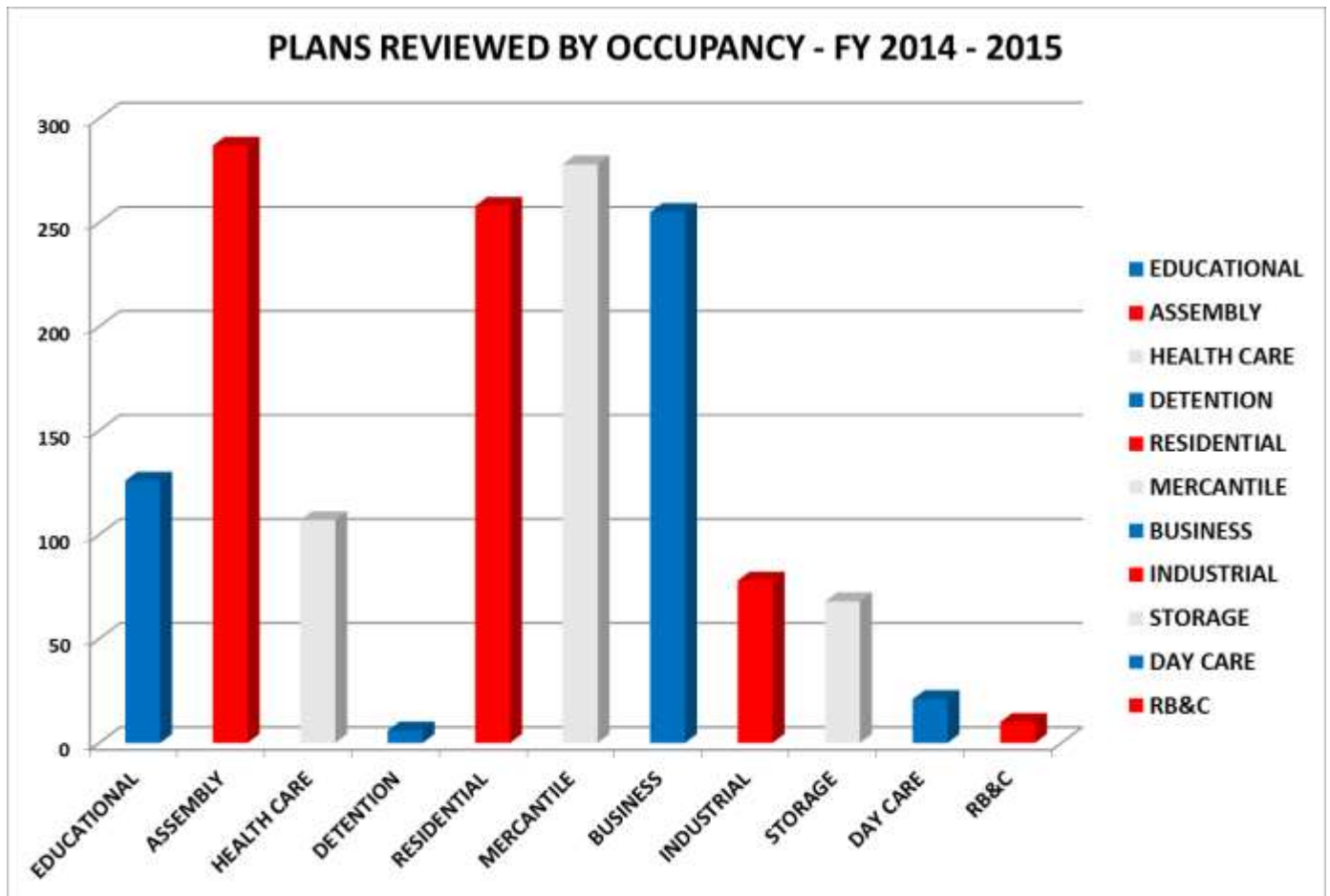
SAMPLING OF PROJECTS - FY 2014 - 2015



PLAN REVIEW DIVISION

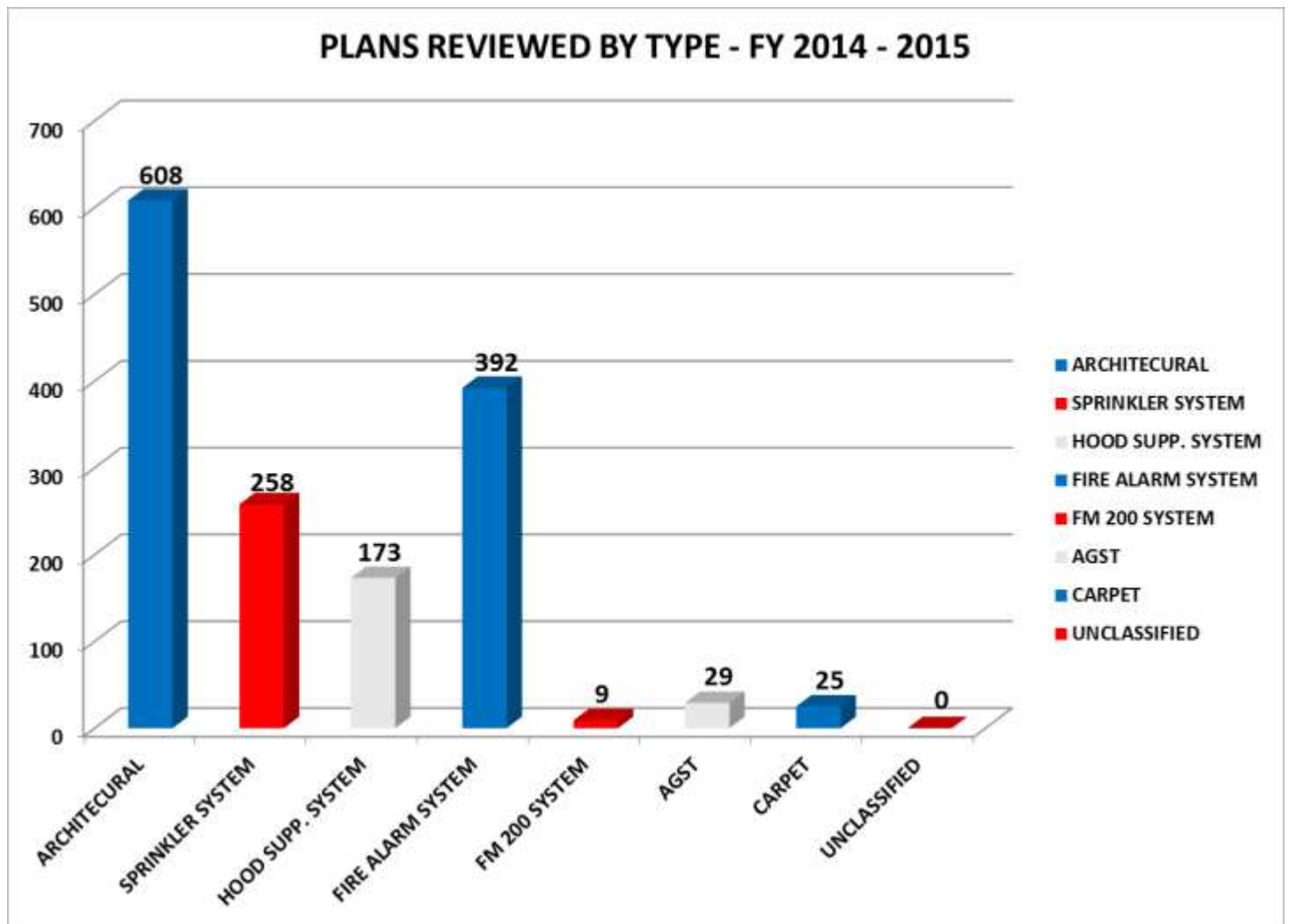
PLANS REVIEWED BY OCCUPANCY 2011 – 2015

<u>OCCUPANCY</u>	<u>2011 – 2012</u>	<u>2012 – 2013</u>	<u>2013 - 2014</u>	<u>2014-2015</u>
EDUCATIONAL	231	188	210	126
ASSEMBLY	325	315	302	287
HEALTH CARE	113	127	143	107
DETENTION	11	4	11	6
RESIDENTIAL	151	136	170	258
MERCANTILE	206	262	272	278
BUSINESS	355	356	423	255
INDUSTRIAL	47	71	34	78
STORAGE	72	63	63	68
DAY CARE	29	25	28	21
RB&C	19	29	18	10
TOTALS	1559	1576	1674	1494



PLANS REVIEWED BY TYPE 2012 – 2015

TYPE OF PLAN	2012 – 2013	2013 – 2014	2014-2015
ARCHITECURAL	607	648	608
SPRINKLER SYSTEM	238	284	258
HOOD SUPP. SYSTEM	169	192	173
FIRE ALARM SYSTEM	479	472	392
FM 200 SYSTEM	0	2	9
AGST	43	33	29
CARPET	43	42	25
UNCLASSIFIED	0	1	0
TOTALS	1579	1674	1494



PROJECTS EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 1 MILLION DOLLARS PER FISCAL YEAR FY 2002 – FY 2015

FY 2002-2003	64 Projects
FY 2003-2004	88 Projects
FY 2004-2005	130 Projects
FY 2005-2006	121 Projects
FY 2006-2007	134 Projects
FY 2007-2008	124 Projects
FY 2008-2009	140 Projects
FY 2009-2010	135 Projects
FY 2010-2011	106 Projects
FY 2011-2012	151 Projects
FY 2012-2013	134 Projects
FY 2013- 2014	145 Projects
FY 2014-2015	136 Projects



FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION & PLAN REVIEW DIVISION

REVENUE COLLECTED FOR THE LAST FIVE (5) FISCAL YEARS

FY 2014/2015	INSPECTIONS -	\$130,433.00
	PLAN REVIEWS –	\$738,570.90
FY 2013/2014	INSPECTIONS -	\$104,600.00
	PLAN REVIEWS –	\$831,871.33
FY 2012/2013	INSPECTIONS -	\$117,687.00
	PLAN REVIEWS –	\$888,587.40
FY 2011/2012	INSPECTIONS –	\$113,541.00
	PLAN REVIEWS –	\$850,180.78
FY 2010/2011	INSPECTIONS -	\$129,052.00
	PLAN REVIEWS -	\$687,556.88

Fire Investigation Division Annual Report FY 2015



Fire Investigation Division

STAFF

Division Director: DSFM Mark Lambert
DSFM Patrick Barker (Acting)

Field Personnel:

ASFM Shawn Alderman, CFI, CFEI	ASFM Ronald Ayersman, CFI, CFEI
ASFM Jason D. Baltic, CFI, CFEI	ASFM Timothy Chastain, CFEI
ASFM George Harms, CFEI, CVFEI	ASFM Brad Hartley, CFI, CFEI
ASFM Ryan McFarland	ASFM Robert Rodes II, CFI, CFEI
ASFM Rick Sovastion, ECT	ASFM, Vacant Position
ASFM, Vacant Position	

Secretary: Cathy Green/Vacant

INTRODUCTION

The Investigation Division current authorized staffing level is one (1) Field Deputy State Fire Marshal, ten (10) Assistant State Fire Marshals, and one (1) Secretary.

Each Fire Marshal has a designated geographical territory ranging in size from four (4) to eight (8) counties. The Fire Marshals primary duties encompass all aspects of fire/arson identification and enforcement including determining fire and origin and cause, fire death investigations, executing state or federal search/arrest warrants and subsequently providing expert testimony in criminal and civil trials. In addition, each Fire Marshal is responsible for explosives related investigation/enforcement in their respective areas. Many non-arson related violations are identified during the course of an arson investigation, and are generally referred to other federal, state or local law enforcement agencies for investigation/prosecution.

There were 753 incidents called into the Arson Hotline requesting an investigation in 2015. Out of the 753, the investigators responded to 584 incident scenes and conducted investigations. The 169 incidents that were not investigated by the Division were either for statistical reasons or did not require an investigator at the scene due to the fire being accidental in cause determined by the fire department. The investigators worked on 712 cases during the year including cases from previous years.

There were 42 fatalities caused by fire within the state during the year that were a result of 35 fires. Six (6) fires resulted in multiple fatalities. Out of the 35 fires; 24 were classified as undetermined, 6 as accidental, and 5 as incendiary. The state remains at a high number of fire fatalities per capita in the nation.



St. John's Catholic Church Benwood, WV

Investigations Division Report

Fire Fatalities - Between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015

Date	County	Gender	Age	Cause
7/12/14	Berkeley	M	54	Undetermined
7/14/14	Tyler	M	2	Undetermined
7/19/14	Tyler	M	74	Incendiary
7/30/14	Kanawha	F	50	Undetermined
		M	59	
8/3/14	Kanawha	F	53	Undetermined
8/17/14	Raleigh	M	56	Incendiary
8/20/14	Jackson	F	50	Undetermined
9/15/14	Wood	F	66	Undetermined
10/19/14	McDowell	M	50	Incendiary
		M	21	
11/9/14	Putnam	F	3	Accidental
		M	9	
11/26/14	Upshur	M	65	Undetermined
12/4/14	Wyoming	F	42	Accidental
12/4/14	Boone	M	61	Accidental
12/6/14	Cabell	F	26	Accidental
12/13/14	Kanawha	F	65	Undetermined
1/5/15	Jackson	M	68	Undetermined
1/8/15	Berkeley	F	47	Accidental
1/10/15	Kanawha	M	53	Undetermined
1/17/15	Harrison	M	34	Undetermined
		M	5	
		F	7	
1/18/15	Summers	M	30	Incendiary
		M	38	
2/20/15	Mercer	M	46	Undetermined
2/25/15	Wood	F	50	Undetermined
2/26/15	Raleigh	F	50	Undetermined
2/28/15	Kanawha	F	84	Undetermined
3/8/15	Cabell	F	81	Undetermined
3/9/15	Kanawha	M	63	Undetermined
3/15/15	Raleigh	M	40	Undetermined

3/27/15	Nicholas	M	52	Undetermined
4/11/15	Jackson	M	19	Accidental
4/19/15	Marshall	M	30	Undetermined
4/25/15	Fayette	F	72	Undetermined
5/9/15	Webster	F	25	Undetermined
		M	31	
5/25/15	Randolph	F	26	Undetermined
6/22/15	Marion	M	35	Undetermined
6/26/15	Marion	M	81	Incendiary

Total Deaths: 42 Victims (25 Male, 17 Female)

Total Fires: 35 Fires

Cause Determination:

Undetermined: 24

Accidental: 6

Incendiary: 5



Elkins, WV

Investigation Division Report Totals By County

County	Damage/Loss	Injured	Fatalities	Fires
Barbour	\$265,000	0	0	8
Berkeley	\$1,214,547	3	2	34
Boone	\$550,000	0	1	13
Braxton	\$0	0	0	2
Brooke	\$76,000	0	0	3
Cabell	\$1,820,000	1	2	11
Clay	\$58,500	0	0	6
Doddridge	\$100,000	0	0	2
Fayette	\$0	0	1	2
Gilmer	\$0	0	0	3
Grant	\$0	0	0	1
Greenbrier	\$70,000	0	0	11
Hampshire	\$520,000	0	0	5
Hancock	\$153,100	3	0	4
Hardy	\$345,000	0	1	4
Harrison	\$963,000	4	3	22
Jackson	\$1,600	1	2	7
Jefferson	\$700,000	7	0	10
Kanawha	\$748,750	5	7	65
Lewis	\$225,000	1	0	7
Lincoln	\$599,500	0	0	16
Logan	\$827,050	0	0	41
Marion	\$422,000	2	2	28
Marshall	\$2,280,000	0	1	4
Mason	\$54,000	0	0	11
McDowell	\$545,000	0	2	37
Mercer	\$155,000	0	1	30
Mineral	\$60,000	0	0	1
Mingo	\$328,000	1	0	22
Monongalia	\$202,000	2	0	16
Monroe	\$185,000	0	0	5
Morgan	\$1,125,000	6	0	9
Nicholas	\$110,000	0	1	8
Ohio	\$40,000	0	0	1
Pendleton	\$100,000	0	0	1
Pleasants	\$0	0	0	2
Pocahontas	\$77,500	0	0	4
Preston	\$419,000	0	0	12
Putnam	\$901,000	2	2	6
Raleigh	\$251,000	3	3	29
Randolph	\$300,000	1	1	10
Ritchie	\$81,000	0	0	5

Roane	\$1,000,000	5	0	2
County	Damage	Injured	Fatalities	Fires
Summers	\$20,000	0	2	9
Taylor	\$0	0	0	5
Tucker	\$0	0	0	1
Tyler	\$40,000	3	2	5
Upshur	\$150,000	0	1	10
Wayne	\$933,500	1	0	11
Webster	\$50,000	1	2	2
Wetzel	\$55,000	3	0	6
Wirt	\$85,000	0	0	4
Wood	\$0	0	2	2
Wyoming	\$55,000	1	1	9
Totals	\$20,261,047	56	42	584



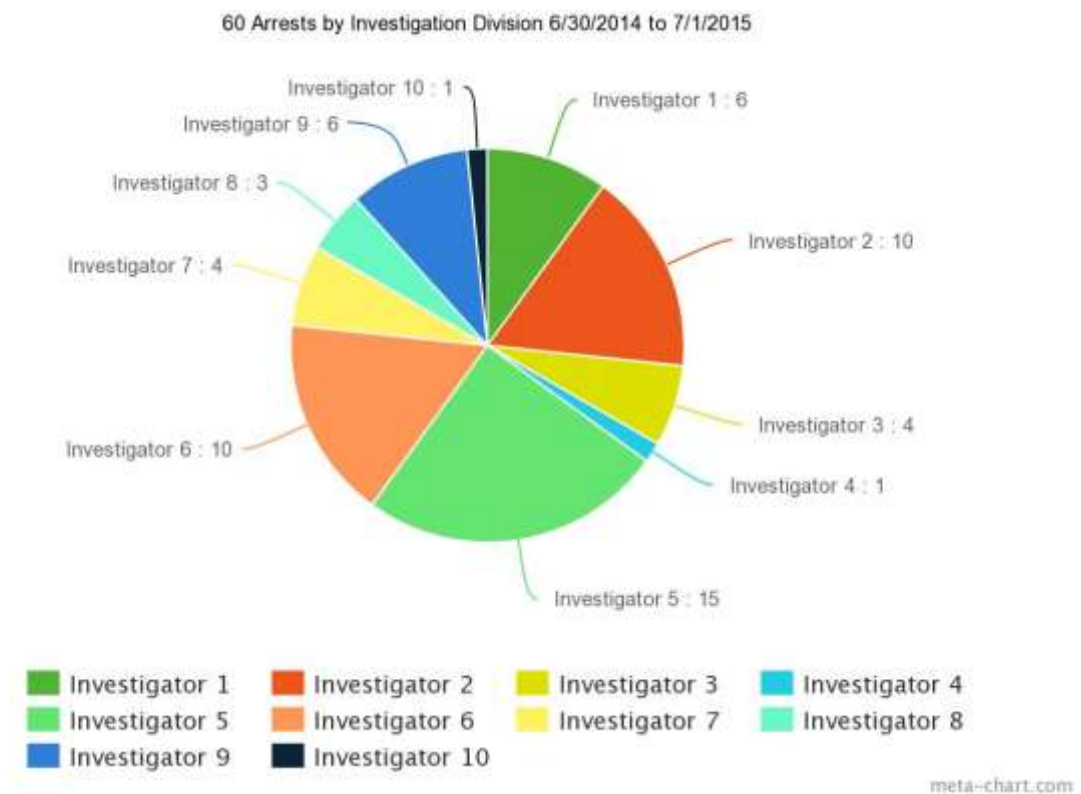
Marshall County

Investigation Division Report Totals By Property Type

Property Type	Damage/Loss	Injured	Fatalities	Fires
Agriculture	\$0	0	0	1
Assembly	\$26,000	0	0	3
Detention/Corrections/ Government	\$250	0	0	2
Education	\$600	0	0	4
Field/Woods	\$0	0	0	1
Manufacturing	\$331,000	1	0	6
Mercantile	\$1,620,000	3	0	6
Multi-Use Property	\$875,000	2	0	8
Office/Business	\$51,500	0	0	8
Other Structures	\$100,000	0	0	3
Outside/Special Properties	\$109,000	1	0	5
Person	\$0	0	0	1
Processing	\$100	0	0	1
Religious	\$2,254,000	0	0	7
Residential	\$14,346,897	48	36	449
Storage	\$420,000	0	0	40
Vehicles	\$126,700	1	6	39
	\$20,261,047	56	42	584



Randolph County

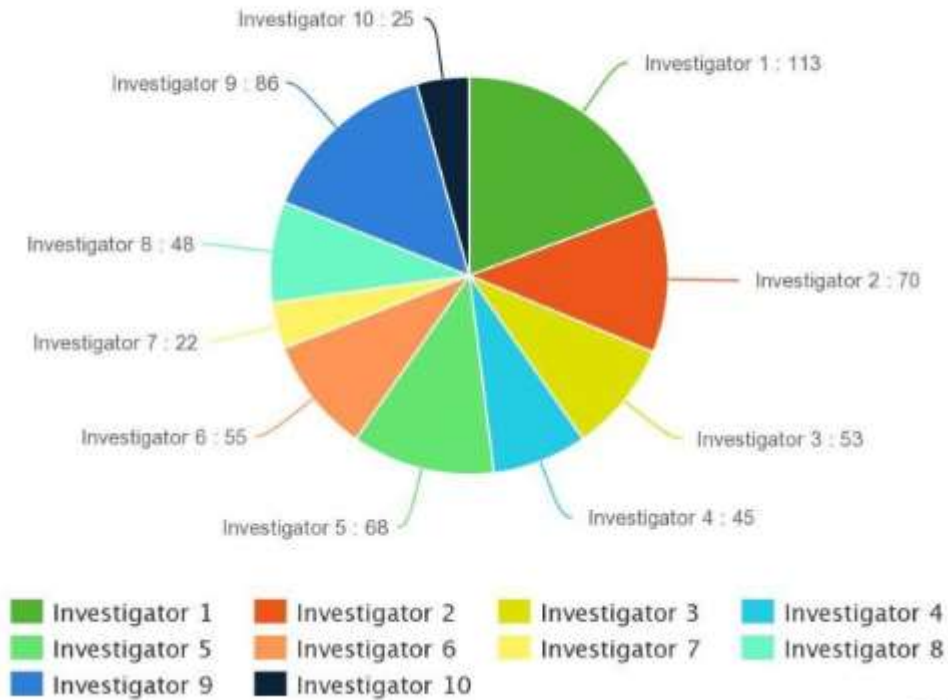


Fire Investigation Requests and Arrest Summary

During the time period between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015, the Investigation Division investigated 584 new incidents called in, requesting an investigation. Of the 584 incidents, 143 were ruled incendiary, 53 were ruled accidental and 388 were ruled undetermined in cause.

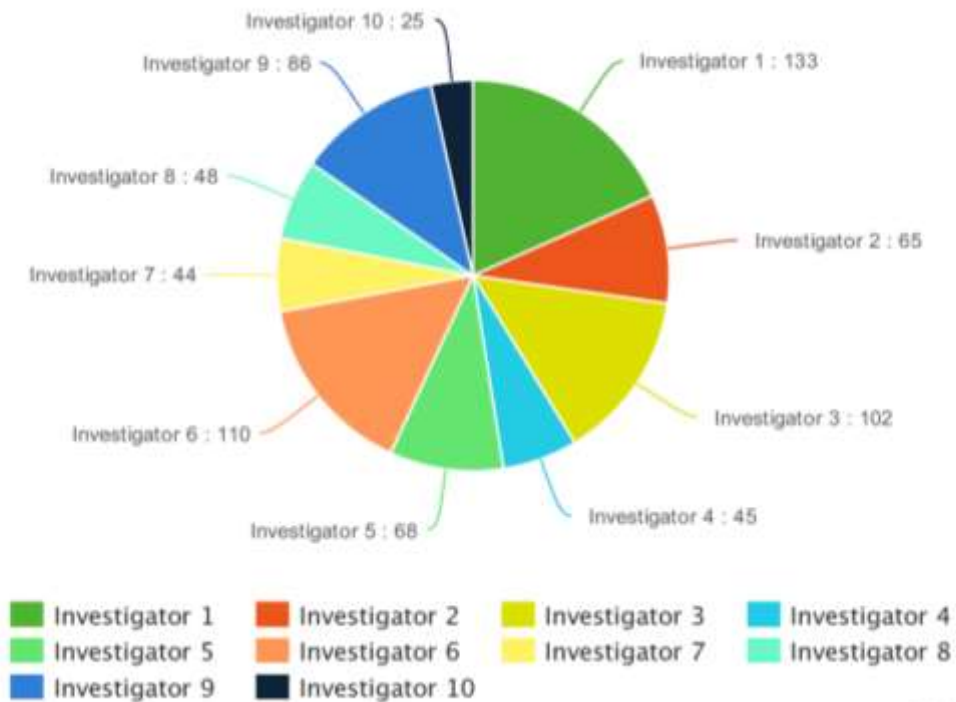
The Investigation Division arrested 60 individuals for arson related crimes during that same time period. The arrest rate for the Division for last year was 42%, which is well above the national average of 12%. Investigators also worked on incidents from previous years, totaling 712 cases worked throughout the year. It should be noted that, throughout the year, the division worked this caseload while not being fully staffed.

584 New Fire Investigation Cases Opened 6/30/2014 to 07/01/2015



meta-chart.com

712 Total Fire Investigation Cases Worked 6/30/2014 to 07/01/2015



meta-chart.com

Public Education Division Annual Report FY 2015



Public Education Division

STAFF

Division Director:

Vacant

Office Assistant:

Heather Bostic, OA2

INTRODUCTION

The Public Education Division staff consists of one Field Deputy Fire Marshal and one Office Assistant (OA2).

The Public Education Division is responsible for duties which include, but are not limited to, fire and injury prevention education (primary); media communications; coordination of continuing training for deputized assistant fire marshals, SFMO sworn personnel and other code enforcement personnel; administration of the testing certification program for the sales of reduced ignition propensity cigarettes in West Virginia for tobacco manufacturers; and enhancement/upgrades to the SFMO website.

The Public Education Division promotes programs that aim to reduce loss of life and property through education, including but not limited to, the following:

- Fire and injury prevention for all groups, including high-risk (seniors, people with disabilities, young children)
- Train-the-trainer instruction in public fire/life safety education for firefighters and other emergency responders
- Fireworks law and safety for general audiences
- Smoke alarm education and distribution programs
- Fire safety and emergency planning for public facilities
- Public speaking for civic, governmental and advocacy organizations
- Participation in health and public safety fairs/seminars, and career days
- Membership and active participation in health/safety organizations
- Press conferences, TV, radio interviews, media promotion of fire safety and related topics
- Coordination of FEMA grant writing workshops for WV fire departments
- Coordinating loan and distribution of educational materials to fire departments, safety groups, schools, businesses and the general public



Fire in West Virginia FY 2015

The fire problem varies from region to region in the United States. This can be a result of poverty, education, demographics and other causal factors. According to the National Fire Protection Association's Oct. 2012 publication "U.S. Unintentional Death Rates by State", West Virginia easily ranks among the top ten (10) states on three (3) of the major correlating factors for fire deaths: poverty level, education level, and percentage of smokers. Additional risk factors in West Virginia include a large rural population, and some of the largest populations of people with disabilities and senior citizens in the United States.

The U.S. Fire Administration's (USFA) recent report on "*Relative Risk of Dying in a Fire by State*" relates "In addition to the District of Columbia, the states with the highest relative risk in 2010 included West Virginia, Alabama and Mississippi. **The populace of West Virginia was 3.3 times more likely to die in a fire than the general population....**"

This risk rate again shows that West Virginia remains by far the deadliest state in terms of fire death rates.

SPECIAL PROJECTS FY 2015:

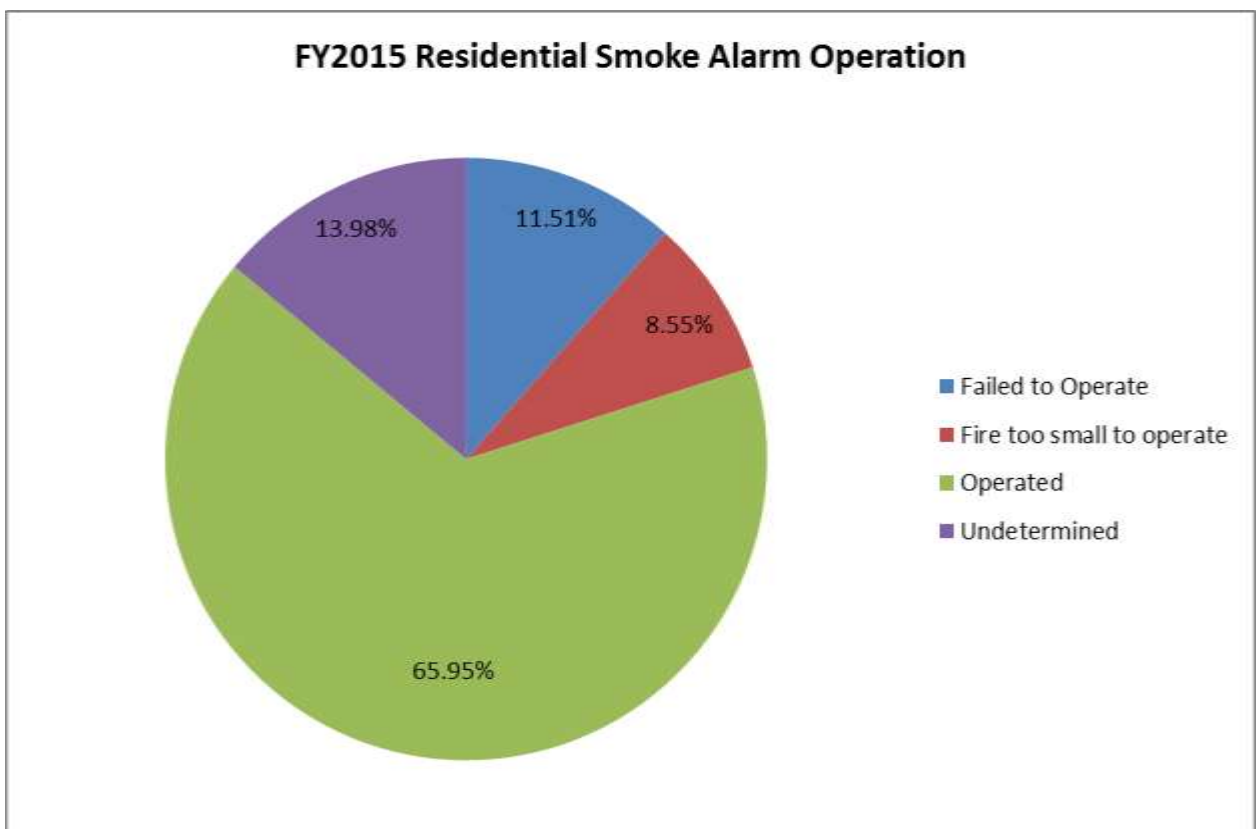
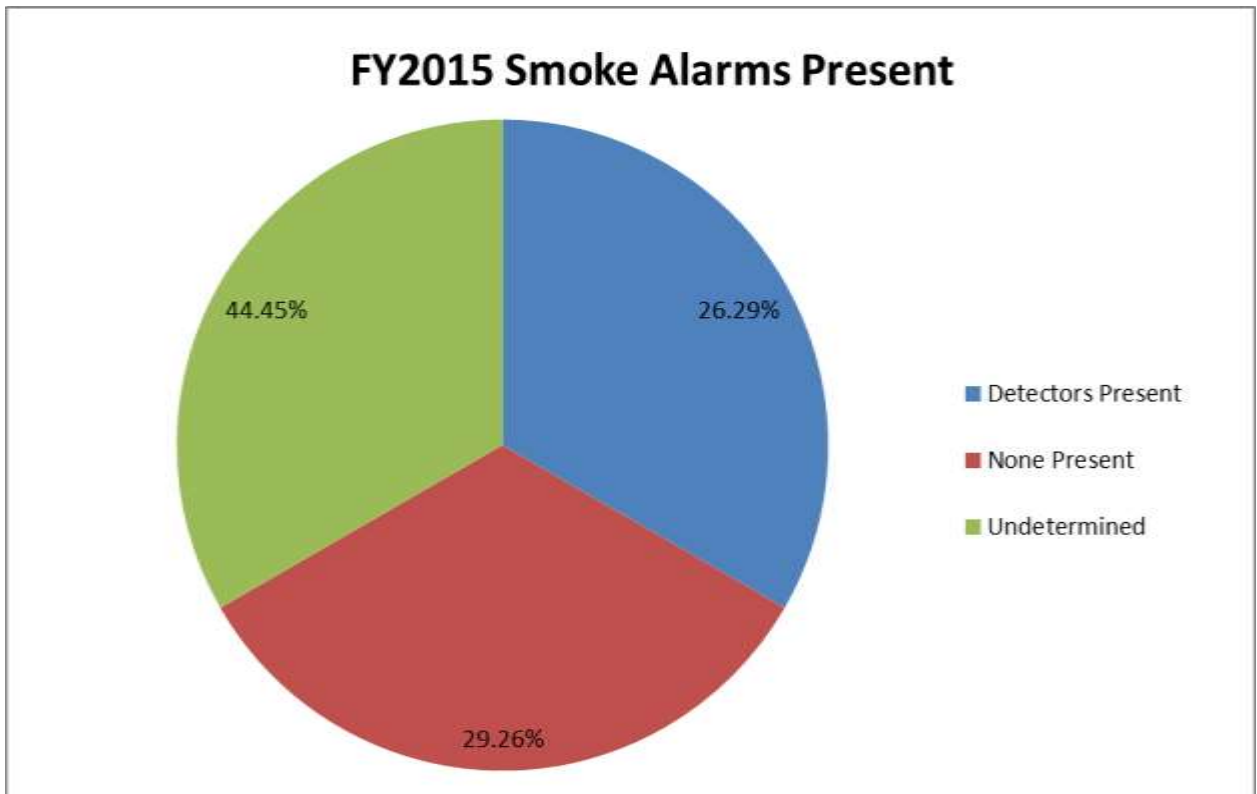
- Worked with WV Metro News to do Radio Commercials spots with fire safety and prevention messages.
- Fire Safety Bulletin Boards through Kanawha Valley Advertising. Several in Sissonville area.
- Partnered with Saint Albans Fire Department to put up "Smoke Alarms Save Lives" bulletin boards along Route 60.
- National Fire Prevention Week (October 5-11, 2014) Activities:
 - Fire safety pamphlets on topic of smoke alarms were donated by the SFMO for distribution during National Fire Prevention Week by WCHS Talk Radio (Charleston-Metro News Radio).
 - Press releases on Fire Prevention Week sent to all media contacts: TV, radio, newspapers, and other media partners.
 - Partnered with Charleston Newspapers for their "Newspapers in Education" Fire Safety program.

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES FY 2015

- Press Releases to television and radio stations, newspapers, fire departments and State agencies
- Participated in WV Violence and Injury Prevention Program conferences.
- Testing certifications issued to tobacco manufacturers under the Fire Safe Cigarette Certification program.



SMOKE ALARM DATA FY 2015



Fire Department Services Division Annual Report FY 2015



Fire Department Services Division

STAFF

Division Director: Vacant

Office Assistants: Alice Morrison
Shenandoah Gore

Field Personnel: Bradley "Sparky" Scott, ASFM



FIRE DEPARTMENT SERVICES OBJECTIVE

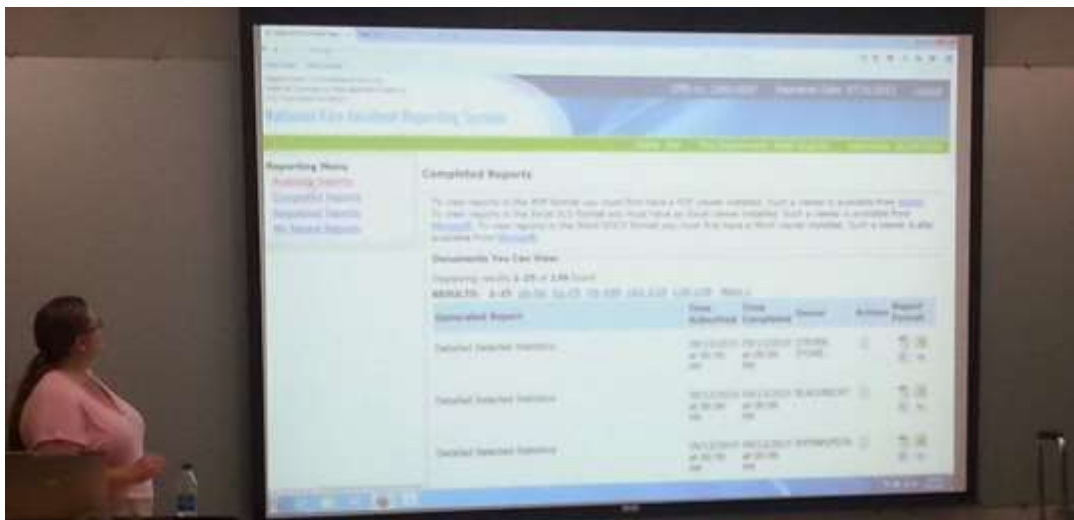
The Fire Department Services Division is responsible for duties that include administration and oversight for all fire and non-fire data collected through the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) and related data analysis and fire department training, evaluation of fire departments and Fire Officer Equivalencies, and the coordination and issuance of emergency vehicle permits for all West Virginia fire departments and certain other entities.

INTRODUCTION

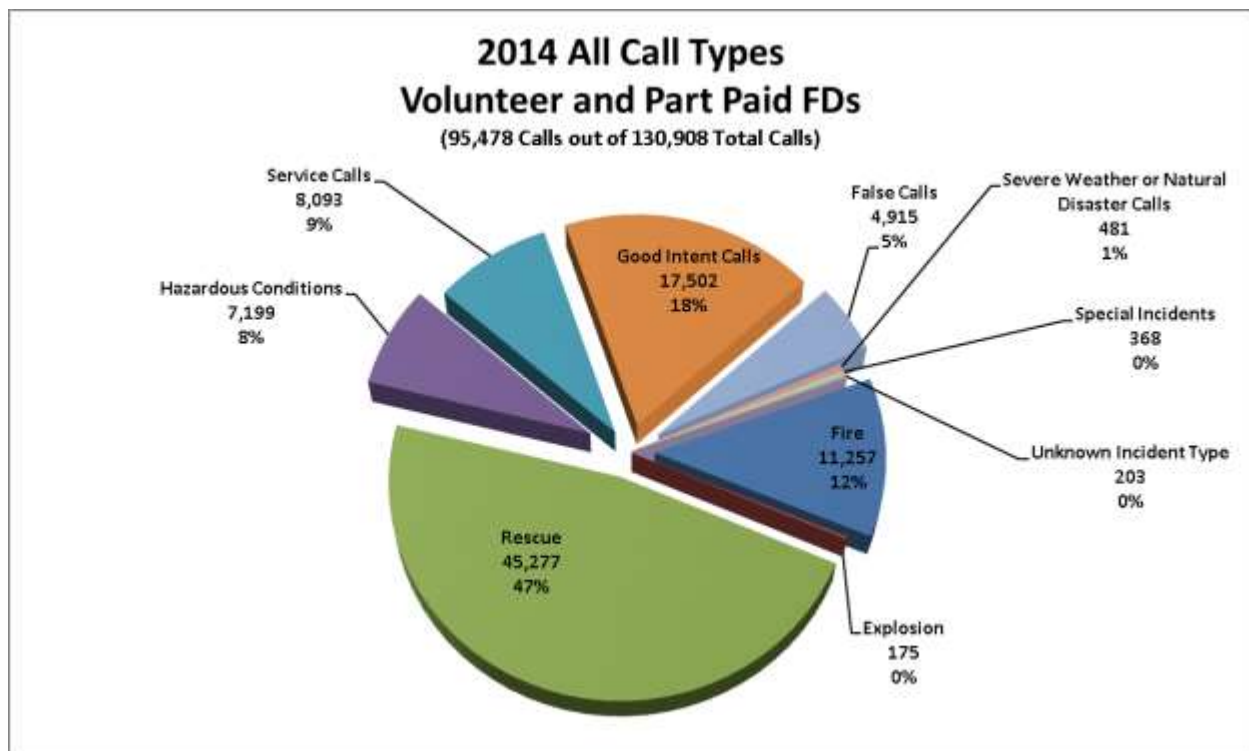
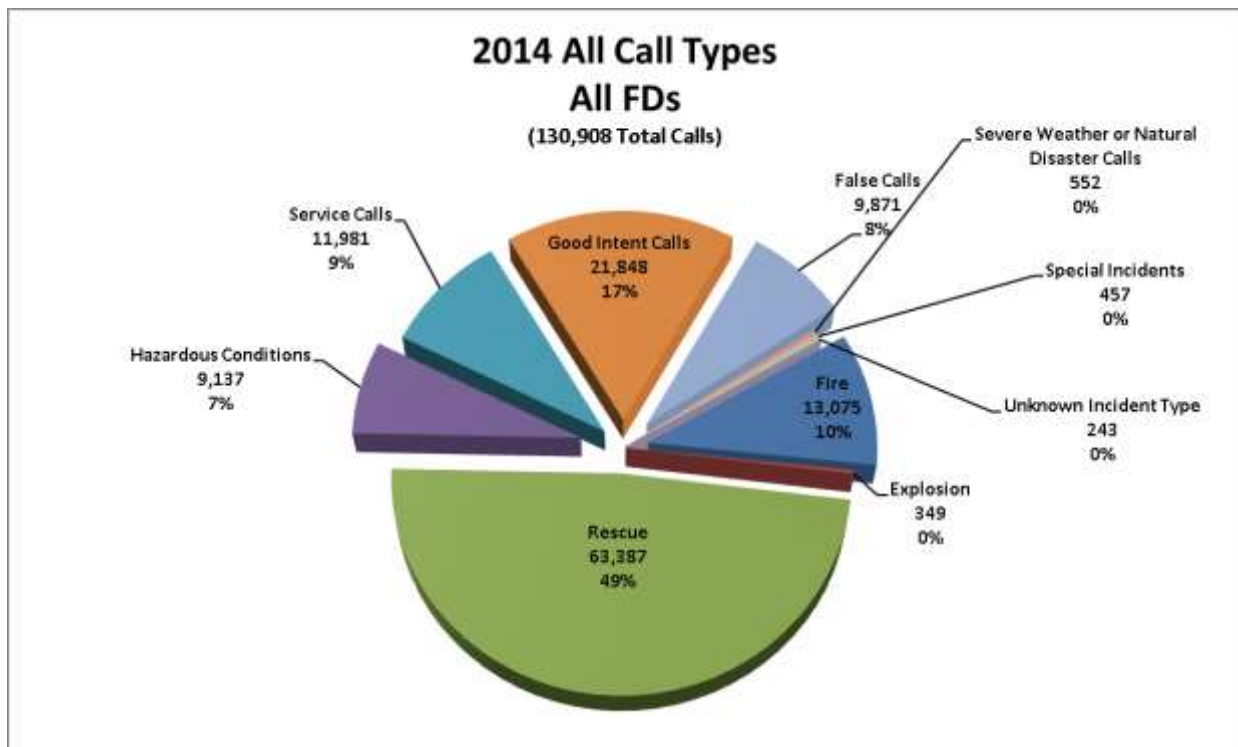
The Division also oversees, consults and assists all 442 certified fire departments in the State of West Virginia and provides information and guidance to new fire departments seeking certification.

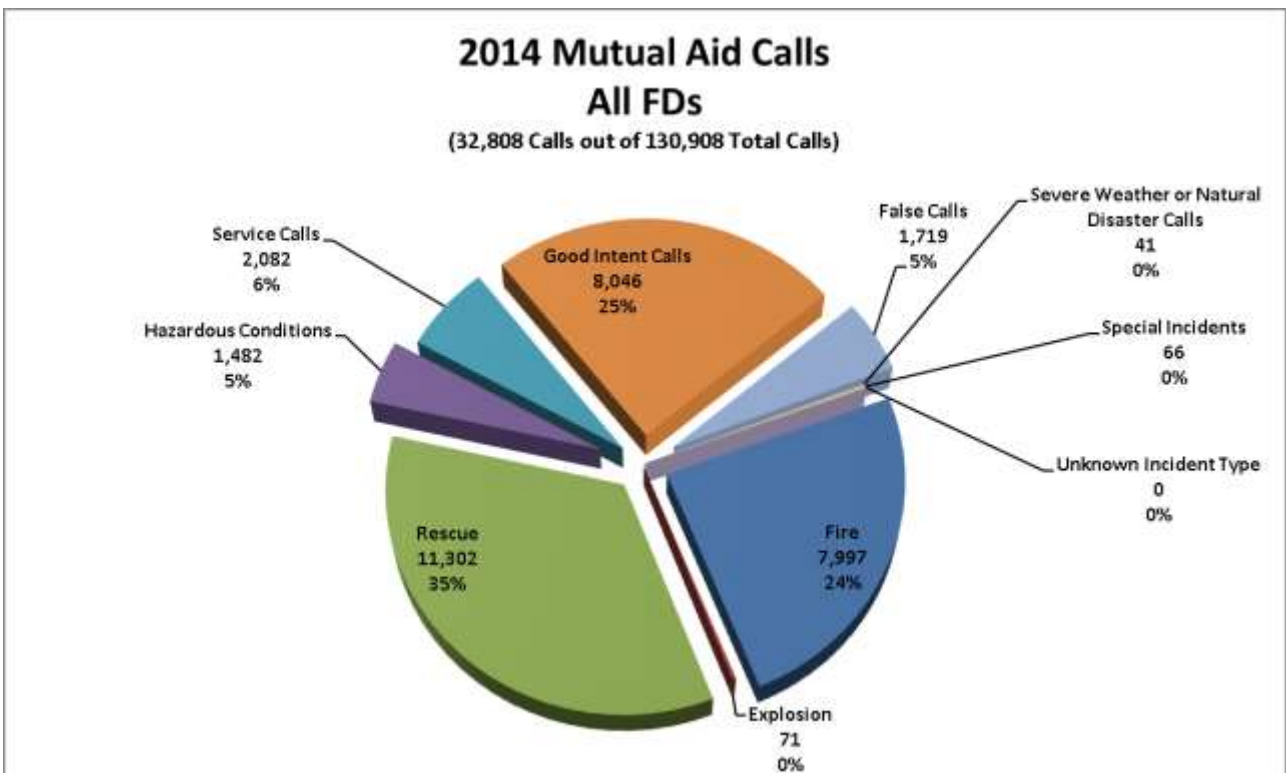
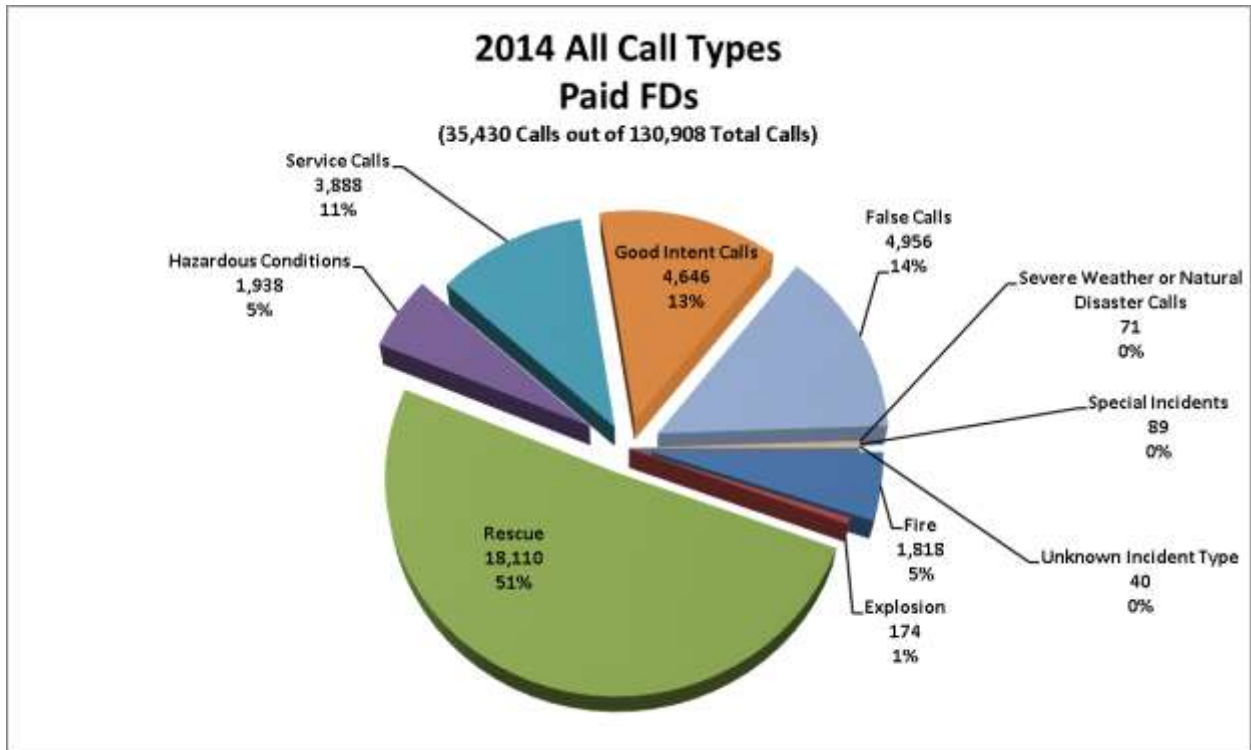
During the fiscal year 2014-2015 the division has:

- Completed 88 evaluations of Fire Departments. 45 of the Fire Departments were Re-Certified.
- Worked with the WV Division of Labor and Fire Departments concerning the safe operation of the Junior Firefighter program.
- Issued 555 Emergency Vehicle Permits (144 Apparatus and 411 Private).
- Deactivated 829 Emergency Vehicle permits (106 Apparatus and 723 Private).
- Total Active permits now stand at 6458 (3052 Apparatus and 3406 Private).
- The office staff has fielded approximately 2000 calls, with the majority of those asking for assistance with the National Fire Incident Report filing.
- Processed and evaluated 75 Fire Officer Equivalencies (35 Fire Officer 1, 40 Fire Officer 2). Out of those 75 a total of 65 (32 FO1, 33 FO2) were approved and 10 (3 FO1, 7 FO2) were denied.
- Taught 9 classes of "The Introduction to NFIRS 5.0 and Data Analysis" which involved 57 students, representing 34 fire departments, and 16 counties.

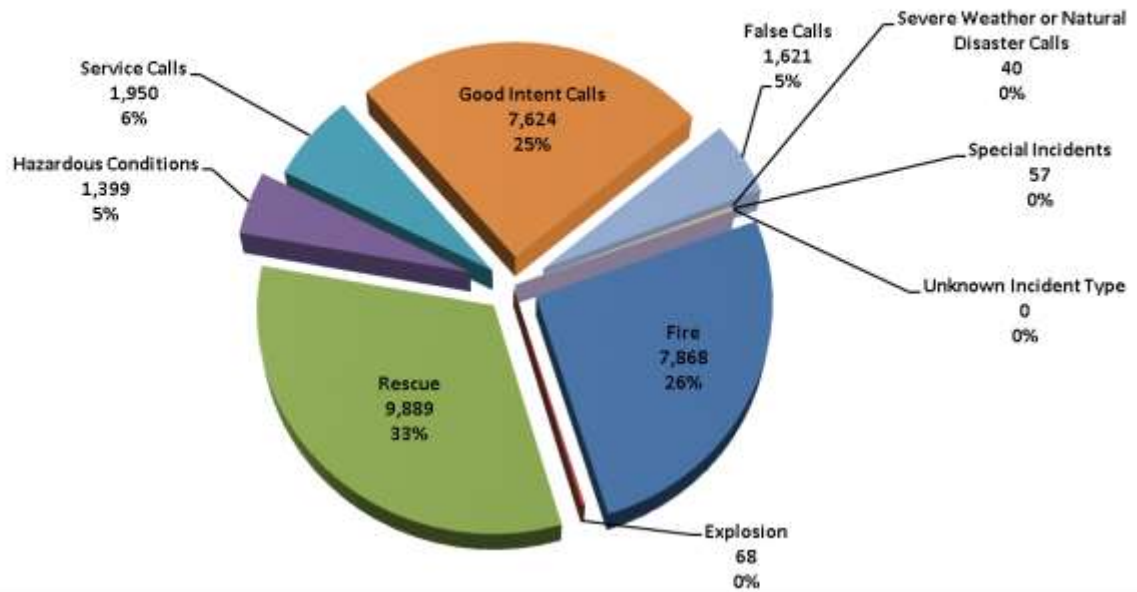


Due to Legislation allowing for a grace period for submission of fire loss data, Fiscal year 2014-2015 will not be available until after January 01, 2016. The following data is from Calendar year 2014 (January 01-December 31). A total of 130,908 responses (up 1,611 from last year) were reported by all West Virginia Fire Departments. Attached are charts and graphs depicting a limited breakdown of those responses.

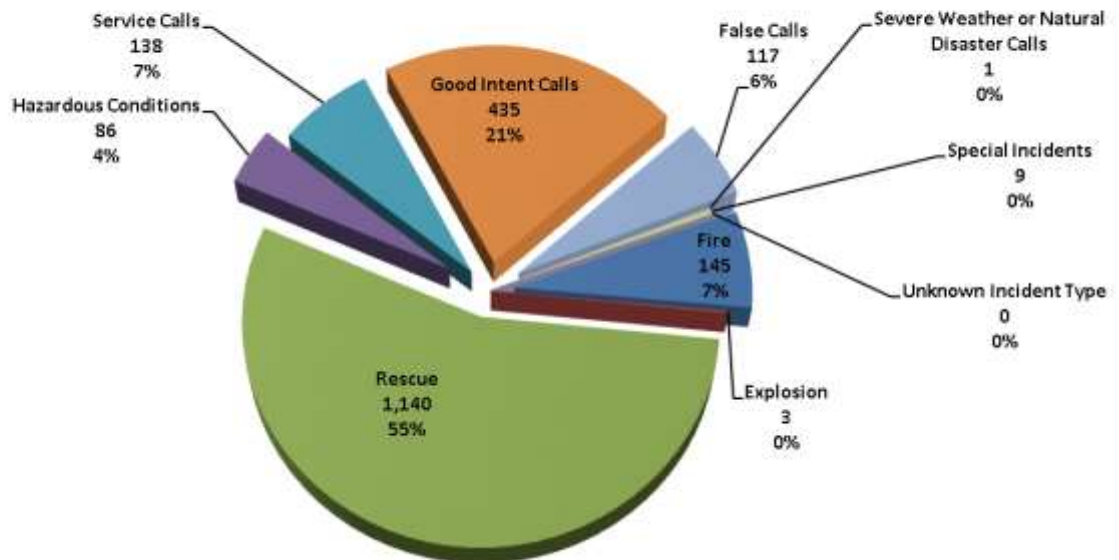




2014 Mutual Aid Calls Volunteer and Part Paid FDs (30,518 Calls out of 130,908 Total Calls)



2014 Mutual Aid Calls Paid FDs (2,374 Calls out of 130,908 Total Calls)





STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE RECOMMENDATIONS:

A Critical Need for Increased Attention to be brought to Public Fire Safety Education and Awareness.

The above concern for West Virginia points to a critical need for the increased use of Public Fire Safety Education and Awareness campaigns.

The WV State Fire Marshal's Office will make efforts to more effectively educate the public about fire and life safety by encouraging the creation of opportunities for fire departments and other community oriented organizations to open their doors to the community more frequently. The State Fire Marshal's Office will assist and help encourage the launching of a large-scale, multi-year, fire safety education effort targeting neighborhoods at higher risk for injuries and death due to fire and other types of incidents. Through the use of programs created by our office and through partnerships with other organizations throughout the state our office will educate volunteers to provide fire safety education literature to the public and train these volunteers to properly install smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in individual residential structures.

It is our office's hope that we can encourage fire departments and others throughout the state to be at the forefront of these efforts. Ideas such as Fire Department Open Houses, Smoke Alarm and Home Safety Rallies, and early education Read A Loud programs are just a few ideas this agency plans to assist in and encourage statewide participation.

Again, I know the primary purpose I have as the Fire Marshal is to develop and maintain productive collaborative relationships throughout the State with my employees, fire service partners and all other stakeholders to insure a fire-safe West Virginia.